

Shūkke Tōkūdō, Sōtō Zen Priest Ordination 出家得度

Please join us as a Sōtō Zen Priest is ordained for the first time in over 20 years at Issan-ji.

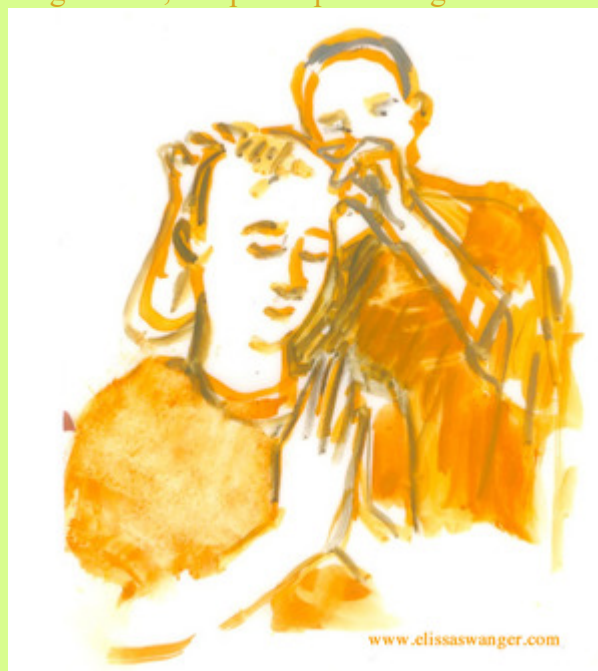
Great vows and blessing to all, with great joy and gratitude, our palms placed together ~

**In the round of rebirth in the three realms,
the bonds of love cannot be severed.
To cast off human relations and enter into the
unconditioned is the true repayment of blessings.**

ruden san gai chu 流轉三界中
on nai funō dan 恩愛不能斷
kion nyu mui 棄恩入無爲
shin jitsu ho on sha 眞實報恩者

**In shaving off beard and hair,
we pray that all living beings
should forever be free from mental afflictions
and in the end attain nirvana.**

teijo shuhatsu 剃除鬚髮
to gan shujō 當願衆生
yōri bon no 永離煩惱
kugyō jakumetsu 究竟寂滅



The Sangha is very excited to announce the ordination of Hogetsu, Max Swanger, who will receive ordination as the first to be ordained since two students of Zenshin, Philip Whalen ordained priests (who are unfortunately for us no longer with us).



Issan Dorsey, our temple founder also ordained three priests and our surviving lineage survives today in one priest, Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock. This is an honor and celebratory moment to have Max join

From to be Unsui, Max Swanger:

For me priest ordination is an expression of my deep devotion to Buddha and the Buddha Way. For some an ordination may be the start of formal training; to me this is a celebration of my many years living in Buddhist Community and Monasteries and the transition from residential student to priesthood.

I am honored to be ordained at Hartford Street Zen center under Abbot Rev. Myo Lahey, and I look forward to my continued practice and life in the Dharma as a priest in the Soto Zen Lineage.

the lineage from hartford street zen center/Issan-ji! This is looking to be a heavily attended event, but please know all are invited to celebrate the continuation of the Soto Zen priest lineage of Issan-ji, HSZC!

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